

Sonography for Foetus Test

2662. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'sonography' which had been devised for foetus test is being used for foeticide; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Ultra-Sonography is one of the several methods for pre-natal diagnosis and can be used for determination of the sex of foetus. Government are aware, however, that different pre-natal diagnostic techniques, including ultra-sonography, are being misused for determination of the sex of the foetus leading to female foeticide in different parts of the country.

(b) It is proposed to enact a comprehensive Central legislation to regulate the pre-natal diagnostic techniques and ban use thereof for determination of the sex of the foetus.

[English]

Education Among Handicapped and Disabled Persons

2663. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government

propose to take steps to promote education among the handicapped and disabled persons;

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be extended to the handicapped for getting education in 1991-92 and the assistance actually extended in 1990-91, State-wise;

(c) the directions issued to the State Governments in this regard and the results achieved; and

(d) the steps taken by different State Governments for implementing these directions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Government of India is implementing the following programmes for the education of the disabled children:—

- (i) Integrated Education for the Disabled Children with the objective of providing educational opportunities for the disabled children in common schools.
- (ii) Scheme of assistance to voluntary organisations for the disabled persons for running schools for the handicapped.
- (iii) Provision of scholarships through State Governments to disabled students from Class IX onwards for pursuing education upto Post-Graduation level and Vocational/Technical study.
- (iv) National Institutes for Mentally, Orthopaedically, Visually and Hearing Handicapped are running schools to provide education for the handicapped children in their respective areas.